

2537 Regent St., Apt. 202
Berkeley, Calif. 94704
March 4, 1963

Mr. Tom Bethell
638 Royal Street
N.O., La. 70130

Dear Tom,

Thanks for the letter of introduction you sent Bruce Lewis. I have some odds and ends of information to pass on that may be of interest.

In connection with an FBI interoffice TWX around 11/17/63 allegedly warning of an assassination attempt, it is noted that on 11/15/63 the FBI advised the Secret Service in San Antonio concerning a reported assassination plot by members of the National States Rights Party (17H566). (Might this be related to the Miami tape?) (Another reference to a possible States Rights Party plot is in CD 64.1; synopsis is in CE 3063.)

CD 179 indicates that sometime in 1961, a person using Oswald's name and posing as pro-Castro attempted to buy a car in New Orleans. This is of some interest in light of the Deslatte affair. (Copy of pp. 1 and 2 enclosed; I do not have the rest yet.) (As far as I know, this CD was first noticed by Josiah Thompson in 1966; I learned of it through his notes.)

Allegations have been made about unidentified federal agents at the scene of the assassination. It seems strange that FBI agent Nat Pinkston was on the sixth floor of the TSBD "immediately after the assassination" but did not testify as to what he saw (26H801).

Having reread the testimony, both Stan Primmer and I feel that the person Doyle and Wilson took to be Oswald's associate on August 9, 1963, may have been Celso Hernandez.

It has been said that Lyndon Johnson signed an executive order locking up some of the Warren Commission files until the year 2039. I have not been able to find any such document, and my information from the Archives indicates that this claim is not correct. (I understand that the 75-year period of nondisclosure is normal, and that all Commission material is subject to periodic review.) I would appreciate any information you have on this alleged executive order.

I have come to suspect quite strongly that the FBI in New Orleans realized, before the assassination, the significance of Oswald's use of the 544 Camp Street address; or, at the very least, that they realized it immediately after the assassination and avoided bringing it to the Commission's attention, as Weisberg shows. Is this particular point - FBI awareness before the assassination that Oswald might not have been a pro-Castro - worth pursuing? Does it agree with your present information and interpretation?

Sincerely yours,

Paul L. Hoch

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